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# CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

## 24-HOUR REPORT

**1 FEBRUARY 2018**

### (U) CALIFORNIA

#### (U) Los Angeles – Human Trafficking Crackdown Nets More Than 500 Arrests Statewide

(U) A statewide human trafficking sting has resulted in the rescue of 56 people, including 11 minors, officials said on 30 January. The three-day sweep known as Operation Reclaim and Rebuild was part of an ongoing effort led by the Los Angeles County Regional Human Trafficking Task Force, a collection of federal, state, county and local law enforcement agencies and social service and community-based organizations. The crackdown led to more than 500 arrests, including 30 suspected traffickers and 178 alleged johns.

SOURCE: 30 January 2018, [Los Angeles Times](#)

#### (U) Oakland – Authorities Announce Charges against Nine Residents in Laptop Computer Theft Ring

(U) Bay Area authorities broke up what they describe as a massive laptop computer theft ring responsible for hundreds of car burglaries in the region, built on an alliance between a street gang and fencers who swiftly moved the contraband to Vietnam. Law-enforcement officials announced charges yesterday against nine residents from San Jose, Oakland and San Francisco alleging conspiracy and buying or receiving stolen property in connection with the theft of upward of 2,000 laptop computers and other high-end electronics valued at more than \$2 million. Fremont police led the months-long investigation while working with the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office, the South Bay-based REACT tech-crime task force, and Homeland Security Investigations.

SOURCE: 1 February 2018, [Mercury News](#)

### (U) NATIONAL

#### (U) District of Columbia – US State Department Designates Hama Leader as Terrorist

(U) Washington – The US State Department said yesterday it had designated Ismail Haniyeh, leader of the Islamist Palestinian group Hamas, as a terrorist. The State Department said in a statement that Haniyeh, along with two Islamist groups active in Egypt and one in the Palestinian territories, were listed as specially designated global terrorists. It quoted Secretary of State Rex Tillerson as saying the designations "target key terrorist groups and leaders – including two sponsored and directed by Iran – who are threatening the stability of the Middle East, undermining the peace process, and attacking our allies Egypt and Israel."

SOURCE: 31 January 2018, [Reuters](#)

#### (U) Virginia – Virginia Tech Student Arrested After Trying to Buy 5,000 Rounds of Ammo

(U) Blacksburg– Virginia Tech police on Monday arrested a student who allegedly had an "assault rifle" and tried to buy 5,000 rounds of ammunition, authorities said. Yunsong Zhao, 19, is charged with one count of possession or transportation of certain firearms by certain persons, a university spokesperson said. The arrest report says that Zhao possessed or transported an assault firearm while not being a citizen of the United States. The documents say he has family in China and had been in the area for six months as a Virginia Tech student. An arrest report also says that Zhao researched a bulletproof vest and "bought a former police vehicle that still bears some police markings and outfitted it with special

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bumper." Virginia Tech said that no alert was sent Monday after the arrest because there was no threat to the university community.

SOURCE: 31 January 2018, [NBC News](#)

**(U) INTERNATIONAL****(U) Germany – Police Arrest Six Far Right Supporters Ahead of Anti-Refugee Protest**

(U) Cottbus – German police arrested six members of the far right who were handing out tear gas bottles and flyers in the eastern city of Cottbus today and said they were stepping up security ahead of an anti-refugee protest there on 3 February. Cottbus, a city of 100,000 residents in the state of Brandenburg, is home to 3,400 refugees. Tensions there have risen since five Syrian teenagers were detained in January over two knife attacks. The six men arrested belonged to the far-right National Democratic Party, police said.

SOURCE: 1 February 2018, [Reuters](#)

**(U) Morocco – Authorities Arrest Seven ISIS Suspects**

(U) Tanger – Moroccan authorities have arrested seven suspected Islamic State in Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS) militants who had been planning attacks. The suspects had been active in a cell in the northern city of Tanger and northeastern city if Meknes and planned attacks, the ministry said in a statement, adding that arms and electronic devices had been seized. No further details were immediately available.

SOURCE: 1 February 2018, [Reuters](#)

**(U) Russia – Authorities Kill Suspected Member of ISIS Plotting Presidential Election Day Attack**

(U) Nizhny Nogovorod – Russia's main intelligence agency says it has killed a suspected member of an ISIS group who it says was plotting an attack on the country's presidential Election Day next month. Russia's Federal Security Service (FSB) said in a statement today that the man resisted and was killed by security forces in the Volga River city of Nizhny Nogovorod. An explosive device, firearms and ammunition were found at the home of the unidentified man who, according to the FSB, hailed from one of the former Soviet republics.

SOURCE: 1 February 2018, [Associated Press](#)

**(U) South Korea – South Korea Prepares Anti-Drone Measures Ahead of Winter Olympics**

(U) Pyeongchang – Ahead of the Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korean officials are prepping a fleet of specially equipped tactical drones to deter terrorism. Korean outlets Hankyoreh and Yonhap report the fleet includes drones equipped with cameras, face recognition capabilities, and a "drone-catching drone" that will drop nets to disable suspicious UAVs. Officials are also prepping anti-drone artillery, including radio signal-jamming guns, which cause pilots to lose control, and shotguns specifically designed to shoot down drones. Other safety precautions include preparing for vehicle ramming attacks, which claimed victims in both Paris and New York, a network of more than 900 CCTVs equipped with object recognition to detect suspicious packages, and enhanced cybersecurity measures to prevent hacking attempts.

SOURCE: 31 January 2018, [Gizmodo](#)

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